



News Release

Media Contact: South Dakota Field Office, 605-323-6500, Email: nass-sd@nass.usda.gov

SOUTH DAKOTA CATTLE INVENTORY UNCHANGED

SIoux FALLS, February 1, 2008 -- All cattle and calves in South Dakota as of January 1, 2008 totaled 3.70 million head, unchanged from last year, according to the South Dakota office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This year's inventory level is down 1 percent from two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 1.73 million head, were down 1 percent from the 1.75 million head on January 1, 2007.

Beef cows that have calved totaled 1.64 million head on January 1, down 25,000 from a year ago.

Other classes and their changes from a year ago are:

- **Milk cows**, at 86,000 head, up 5,000 head from last year.
- **All heifers** 500 pounds and over, at 875,000 head, down from 880,000 head on January 1, 2007.
- **Steers** 500 pounds and over, at 690,000 head, down 10,000 from a year earlier.
- **Calves** under 500 pounds, at 325,000 head, up from 285,000 head a year earlier.

Calves born during 2007 totaled 1,680,000 head, down from last year's 1,720,000 head.

Total **cattle on feed** for the slaughter market in South Dakota on January 1, 2008 numbered 400,000 head. This is down 20,000 head from one year ago.

Access this complete report at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/Catt/2000s/2008/Catt-02-01-2008.pdf>